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Friday April 25 2014

UK HOMEPAGE

Kerry launches verbal attack on Moscow

War of words between Moscow and Kiev intensify as Vladimir Putin warns of ‘consequences’ for using army ‘against its own people’

UK manufacturers pull ahead of EU rivals

A study by the Boston Consulting Group of the 25 leading export nations shows that UK costs are lower than its key competitors France and Germany

Nadella sets out vision for Microsoft

Chief aims to shed company’s long-term commitment to tying its popular software to its comparatively unpopular hardware

VIDEO

Anglo American: transition metals

Anglo American reported decent production numbers for the first quarter - apart from platinum. Lex’s Alan Livsey and Joseph Cotterill discuss whether Anglo could spin out the worst-performing mines in the long term.

US HOMEPAGE

Starbucks gets its teeth into food

Sales growth at US stores accelerates in fiscal second quarter, which ended on March 30, despite an unusually harsh winter in much of the country

US chiefs stay clear of Russia forum

Companies are liaising to try to work out how to avoid offending either the Russian or US governments, according to people familiar with the matter

Google braced for French tax demand

A regulatory filing confirmed reports earlier in the year that the French authorities objected to the search group's European tax structure

EUROPE HOMEPAGE

Israel halts peace talks with Palestinians

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accuses Palestinians of not wanting peace after a unity agreement was signed between PLO and Hamas

Google+ chief quits ahead of shake-up

Vic Gundotra's departure comes as group fails to unseat Facebook as the dominant form of online sharing, or even slow its growth

Amazon overseas arm hit by China spending

Loss in international arm as online retailer seeks to catch up with Chinese rivals but group sales of $19.7bn beat Wall Street expectations

ASIA HOMEPAGE

India's new brooms

As the world's largest democracy goes to the polls, why are some of its business stars taking on the political elite?

HSBC tower sale points to property boom

The £1.1bn price tag for the bank's Canary Wharf HQ building contrasts with the 'Gherkin' calling in receivers – showing different cycles at work

Obama and Abe fail to reach trade deal

The two leaders were pushing for an agreement to open the US and Japan's agricultural and car markets that could help wrap up the wider 12-country Trans-Pacific Partnership talks

WORLD NEWS

Ukraine raises pressure on eastern rebels

Kiev responds to crisis by sending in helicopters and armoured vehicles to break rebel roadblocks and drop leaflets warning locals of ‘Russian terrorists’

Obama warns Russia new sanctions ‘teed up’

US president says more sanctions will be enacted in days unless Russia’s president Vladimir Putin honours a deal to de-escalate tensions in Ukraine

France vows resolve over budget deficit

Michel Sapin says Paris will honour European rules to reduce its deficit while trying to nurture higher growth and make companies more competitive

E-cig groups embark on extra marketing

Proposed FDA rules, which do not curb advertising spending, are part of efforts to oversee a sector that last year generated sales of $2bn

Obama seeks to reassure Japan on security

Shinzo Abe has pressed the visiting US leader for a renewed pledge of support, while seeking backing for Tokyo’s moves to ease curbs on its military

COMPANIES NEWS

Michael Dell prunes gardening portfolio

KKR in late stage talks to buy tech veteran’s ValleyCrest, with the buyout group planning to merge the business with Brickman

Ex-KPMG auditor sentenced to 14 months

Scott London’s jail term follows his insider trading guilty plea when he admitted sharing confidential client information with his golf partner

Tech groups settle suit over hiring pacts

Google, Apple, Intel and Adobe see off threat of courtroom battle with the 64,000 claimants on undisclosed terms

Paris warns GE on possible Alstom bid

France says it is ready to fight to protect national interests, following reports the US group might bid for the train and power plant builder

Barclays feels shareholder anger on pay

Revolt was led by Standard Life, the bank’s sixth largest investor, which criticised the board for hurting the bank’s reputation

MARKETS

Wall St edges up as Apple results please

US stocks inch higher in very choppy trading as enthusiasm over Apple's quarterly results outweighs fresh nervousness about developments in Ukraine

Greek bank borrowing costs fall

National Bank of Greece bond yields 4.375%, less than the 4.95% the Greek government issued at recently, which has since fallen

Zinc producers eye resuming operations

Although the price has been flat this year, Canadian company Teck is banking on a rally and is to resume operations at its shelved Pend Oreille mine

Food price swings get bigger this year

The price of coffee, wheat and sugar has fluctuated hugely this year after a relatively benign 2013 when most prices stabilised or declined

Gulf states gain from Russia debt freeze

As mainstream emerging markets disappoint on growth, liquidity is likely to be squeezed into smaller markets with strong macroeconomic stories

COMMENT

Obama's false choice: war-war or jaw-jaw

War – cold or hot – against Russia is not an answer but neither is pointless discussion

Strip banks of the power to create money

Our financial system is so unstable because the state first allowed it to create almost all the money in the economy and was then forced to insure it

The millstone of $5tn state-backed loans

The problem with quick crisis-fighting 'fixes' is they become dangerously addictive, sowing the seeds of the next crisis

A chance to repeat Mandela's miracle

The era of reconciliation has been a triumph for the ANC, but the future is by no means certain

College life ain't what it used to be

The dream of escape from Loserville to meet Miss Perfect has been shattered by a nerdy need of other connections

MANAGEMENT

The LinkedIn crowd decoded

Recruitment agencies are tracking profile updates on the networking site for signals that users are seeking a job move

Pictures paint a thousand words at ECB

Graffiti artists are being given the freedom to make their uncompromising and often critical mark

How to keep your devices safer

In the wake of last year's leaks by Edward Snowden, cyber security companies have created new protective devices

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